

10 Jan. 1969
Rpt. # 2 44SITUATION INFORMATION REPORT

Students involved in the Sit-in demonstration at the University of California at Berkeley last October have been punished by a joint Faculty-Student Committee on Student Conduct. Each case was aired before the Committee and the results were, 7 students dismissed, 31 suspended and 133 placed on probation.

Youth International Party (YIPPIE) leader Jerry RUBIN has been fined \$50.00 in Chicago Circuit Court for disorderly conduct in connection with his participation in the Chicago riots during the Democratic National Convention. Specifically, RUBIN, age 30, was arrested for releasing a pig in the Civic Center Plaza on August 23rd.

Racial prejudice has reared a comic head at the University of Maryland. A negro coed at a recent meeting of the Black Student Union with two of University of Maryland Regents charged that negro girls had no chance of entering the Cheerleader Corps. The coed advised the Regents that the fraternities and sororities control the selection process and since there are no negro members, no black girls have a chance. According to the coed, the campus greek-letter societies reject all black candidates because black girls have different body movements. They shimmy when they should be going up and down.

It is reliably reported that the Oakland Headquarters of the Black Panther Party is "falling apart" because of involvement of the male members with female members. The Los Angeles Chapter of the BPP may be coming into prominence by committing acts of violence. The Los Angeles Panthers have recently added to their arsenal, including a supply of dynamite.

Pages with
admitted comic only
removed from
report

On 19 December 1968 a Black Panther Party member was murdered in Los Angeles. The victim had a fractured skull which was the probable cause of death but he also had two bullets fired into his chest. The Panthers in Los Angeles have recently been reported on the outs with "US", Ron Karengas' black extremist group. It is further reported that the Panther headquarters in Oakland is checking into complaints against the Panther leadership at San Diego. Allegedly, the San Diego leadership has been instructed to return all firearms previously made available to them. Instructions were issued that the BPP in San Diego should be inactive until activated by headquarters.

On December 29th a group of 12 people met in Washington to form a local chapter of the Black Panthers. Until accepted by the BPP headquarters in Oakland, the Washington group will call itself the Black Defender Party. Applicants for membership must have a rifle, a hand gun and ammunition, and reportedly will receive 6 weeks training by a BPP official.

Calendar of Tentatively Scheduled Activities

*Asterisked items are either reported for the first time or contain additions or changes to previously reported activities.

- January 1969 A dissident faction of the American Independent Party has announced that it has taken steps to form a continuing national organization. A temporary national committee was formed by 150 representatives from fourteen states at a two-day convention in El Segundo, California, recently.
- The Committee's main objectives would be "assistance to all state parties in preserving their ballot qualifications and retentions of the A.I.P. as a legally constituted national party." The committee will meet early in 1969 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, to form a regular national committee.
- January 1969 *The Oakland Seven Trial, originally set for November 18, has been postponed until January.
- January 13 *Howard Cohen, of the San Francisco State College Young Socialist Alliance, announced plans at a recent news conference for a statewide group supporting the striking students at San Francisco State College. The statewide group has urged supporters from other campuses to hold rallies and to visit SFSC during a week of solidarity from January 6 to January 15 with a mass convergence on the troubled campus on the 13th. The group represents 40 high schools, colleges and other organizations in California.
- January 15 *New York City
The Philadelphia Chapter of Women's Strike for Peace (WSP) has scheduled a trip to NYC for an anti-Viet Nam demonstration. It will be coordinated with the New York group and alleged purpose is to urge President-elect Nixon to withdraw troops from Viet Nam.

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Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - The Black Liberation Alliance, formed October 18-20 at Columbus, Ohio, by 50 dissatisfied members of CORE from five states will hold its first convention. Temporary officers were elected at Columbus. It was decided that the organization will strive for basic social, economic, and political change in the U.S.A. rather than reform. It will seek racial separation, black nationalism, and the formation of a separate black nation within the boundaries of the U.S.

January 18-20

Historically, the Inaugural weekend in Washington, D. C. has been a gala time, marked by large crowds of cheerful political participants, tourists and metropolitan area on-lookers taking part in or observing the many Inaugural parties and events, highlighted by the Inaugural swearing-in ceremony on Inauguration Day (Jan. 20) and the lengthy parade that follows.

This year's Inaugural is unique in that it seems faced with dangers and tensions which will continuously threaten untoward incidents or worse. Various dissident groups have already indicated their intention to use this period by taking advantage of the national and international focus of the news media to publicize their organizations and causes. As during the Poor People's Campaign last summer, and at the Democratic National Convention in the fall, their makeup is varied and runs the gamut from radical left to radical right and includes the student, hippie, and black militant groups.

Obviously, responsible officials are making appropriate plans and taking such action as is deemed necessary to reasonably assure the orderly, peaceful, and successful conduct of all Inaugural activities. This may be an extremely difficult as well as delicate task and the degree of success attained will ultimately be largely dependent on how fervently

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the dissidents desire to intentionally or "inadvertently" generate confrontive and disruptive situations. Contrary to the tactics taken intended to promote order at the DNC, advance notice and details of intended security measures have not been publicized to date. Perhaps in this case, only assurances that adequate safeguards are being established, will be released for publication.

Although the proposed, tentative, and/or possible activities of the various dissident segments for the period 18 January--20 January in Washington, D. C., and elsewhere directly or indirectly relative to the Inauguration of President-elect Richard NIXON and the assumption of office by the elected or appointed members of the new administration are in a fluid state at this time, some generalizations may be valid. It does not appear that the number of visitors to D. C., coming with intent to either protest or demonstrate, is likely to reach nearly the proportions of some previous Washington, D.C. demonstrations such as the Pentagon March in 1967. It may well be that in numbers, they will not reach the size of the relatively small group of activists who participated in the confrontations at the D.N.C. in Chicago. Unfortunately, as is well known, a relatively small minority of activists under some circumstances can involve much greater numbers.

The Inaugural probably will of itself draw large crowds; however, if the threat, real or imaginary (because of exaggerated claims and professions of intentions by the dissidents), of disorder seems great, it could result in a drastic reduction in attendance at some of the events. This would likely be particularly true of the Inaugural Parade, as the prudent or timid would probably opt for a comfortable TV view rather than expose themselves to either discomfort or hazard. Presumably, such a result would in itself be considered a plus by counter-Inaugural leaders.

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Further, it appears that generally speaking the minority races to not wish to become involved in either protest or demonstrations---particularly, the overwhelming majority of the local colored population who allegedly feel that they will suffer most from any serious escalation of disorder. This is not to suggest that the elements for disturbance and disorder will be minimal---they are nearly always present these days and the threat will be amplified during this period.

Despite protestations by organizational leaders that confrontation is neither planned nor desired; both the scheduled actions and the improbability of controlling individuals, will make for a tense period at best. Increased activity by criminal elements can be expected despite the increased security precautions and full use of police personnel. It can be assumed that there will be some areas in which law enforcement forces will necessarily be maintained at a minimum because of heavy preoccupation with more sensitive areas. Also, as will be noted in some of the remarks following, taken from materials and information available to date, should a confrontation be desired or even be forced unintentionally or inadvertently upon security personnel, a most difficult situation will be presented them--How to effectively handle the problem without taking measures which would almost surely involve innocent bystanders. While consideration of the possible adverse propaganda effect must be given some weight by officials in charge, of paramount importance will be the protection of life and property including firstly the President and President-elect.

As, for a number of mass demonstrations in recent years including that at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, the leading planning and organizing group and would-be official sponsor, is the National Mobilization Committee to End the War in Viet Nam. The NMC, essentially a small central staff serving as an umbrella to coordinate the anti-war efforts of some 100 or so loosely affiliated anti-war, anti-draft, and pacifist organizations, is chaired by David BELLINGER, longtime pacifist-activist. Publicizing their

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intention as a "Counter-Inauguration", they state that it is not really directed against the new administration but it is against U. S. policy in Viet Nam and the "enslavement of black people at home"--the latter calculated, undoubtedly, to draw colored individuals and groups, and civil rights groups into the activities. Planned protests are to be peaceful and non-violent. Basic plans announced by NMC call for meetings and demonstrations before and during the Inauguration. On Saturday, 18 January, workshops and organizational meetings are to be held. Sunday, 19 January, allegedly when the largest number of demonstrators are expected, demonstrations are planned at the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Monument, the Capitol Building and at various other Government office buildings. An unknown number of groups affiliated with NMC will demonstrate at the South Viet Nam Embassy and at Arlington National Cemetery at 11:00 A. M. The NMC plans call for a one-hour assembly at the Ellipse on the south side of the White House beginning at 1:00 P. M. After the assembly, a march is scheduled along "E" Street, Pennsylvania and Constitution Avenues to the Plaza of the Supreme Court where the marchers will listen to speeches for one hour. The march has been labeled by NMC leaders as an Inaugural Parade "in reverse". The demonstrators are then scheduled to disperse and proceed to Union Station where bus transportation is to be waiting. At 8 P. M., a Counter-Inaugural Ball is planned, allegedly in a huge circus tent to be erected in the Mall. Music and entertainment will be furnished.

On the 20th, planned activities center around the Inaugural Parade. There has been some indication that the dissidents may request official permission that a section of the Parade be set aside for marchers who object to the Inaugural. Granting of permission to participate in the Parade, either directly or in proximity of it either as to time or space, seems highly improbable. Rumors from the dissident underground suggest that they are eying the grandstands as

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excellent bonfire material which might be burned down the night before the Parade. Any such an attempt would seem doomed to failure. Leaflets as well as publicity in the underground and radical press have begun to appear in quantity, exhorting dissidents to make the trek to Washington D.C. to participate in the action. According to a leaflet distributed by the Fifth Avenue Viet Nam Peace Parade Committee (FAVPPC), the FAVPPC and the NMC have jointly planned the program which includes on January 20, the organized presence of the movement along the Inaugural Parade route seeking a political, not a physical, confrontation. The leaflet added -- free housing will be available in D.C. for participants. An ad placed in the Guardian by the FAVPPC sets out for Monday, January 20th--- a mobilization contingent in a discrete (sic) area along the Inaugural Route, with banners, floats, performers, etc. "Performers" would seem to support other indications that so-called guerilla theatre groups will be active during the weekend.

Rennie DAVIS, NMC Project Coordinator, has described the proposed workshops on January 18 as educational (GI organizing, underground media, highschool work, Viet Nam, the shape of the new administration, and imperialism in Latin America). Editorial Note: Indications are that the radical movement expects and intends that a new "Viet Nam" be developed in Latin America and is already turning their propaganda and subversive machinery in that direction. Invited speakers include: Dick GREGORY, Ralph ABERNATHY, Kathleen Cleaver, and Dagmar WILSON of Women Strike for Peace.

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NMC to use college facilities for the workshops, he later withdrew his assent after the student government voted overwhelmingly against the idea. Federal City College has a student body that is about 94% colored, and seemingly quite activist, and this would seem to give support to the reports that the local colored population does not desire to become involved in the "counter-inaugural" actions.

A session for the January 20 marshals will be held at St. Stephens of the Incarnation Church, 16th and Newton, N. W. on January 17. According to DAVIS, Robert KRAMER of New York or perhaps the Los Angeles Monitor School, and Dean PAPPAS of Baltimore will train the marshals. Allegedly the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLS) has agreed to supply all of the communications systems to be used by demonstrators on January 19. This will include bullhorns, handi-talkies, and mobile units.

DAVIS also claims that SDS in WDC is cooperating with NMC in planning for the Inaugural demonstrations, in spite of the recent SDS national council decision not to participate. The following individuals are reported to now (1/6) be in D. C. working with the NMC staff to organize the Inaugural activity: Peggy BROWN, Fran SCHREIBER, and Debbie FRANKEL, all believed to be from New York; Onka SECKER from Oregon; and Mary PETERS from Ohio State University.

The position of SDS in regard to the Counter-Inaugural seems to have evolved into a decision at the national level not to co-sponsor nor to officially support it; however, local groups and individuals will be active. At a meeting of the National Interim Committee of SDS in mid-November, SDS rejected proposals by NMC that SDS co-sponsor the demonstrations. One reason for rejection reportedly was a fear that NMC would again dominate the political posture of the action while SDS members bore the brunt of confrontation with the police.

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Michael KLONSKY and some other principal officers of SDS wanted to demonstrate during the Inauguration as a national entity. The leadership, however, was persuaded or forced to cancel demonstration plans by the Young Socialist Alliance (youth section of the Socialist Workers Party) and representations of the black militant groups who are also SDSers and were delegates to the Ann Arbor conference. Although there will be no national endorsement, local chapters of SDS are free to demonstrate.

The Black Caucus implied that black militants were in charge of Washington and any plans for the District had to be cleared with them. The SNCC representative at the conference told the SDS flatly to stay away from Washington. He told the delegates that he and his people had guns and there could be a confrontation with troops during the Inauguration. In a Black Caucus statement, SDS was warned (or threatened) that if SDS held demonstrations, reprisals would be considered against those participating after their return home. One negro said that if SDS came to Washington to tell blacks how to run the working class struggle they would get their heads blown off.

Proposed demonstrations against the Justice Department and State Department during the Inauguration were defeated.

One delegate (an anarchist from the Columbia University riots) stated that hit-and-run guerilla tactics will be used in Washington to confront the police and that demonstrators will be protected and armed with clubs. During a group discussion, one individual stated he had heard others discuss making a homemade rocket for an assassination attempt on the President. Other participants were strongly opposed to such action.

D. C. area SDS members seem desirous of being prominent in the activity. At American University, Rev. Chas. ROTHER

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(Methodist Chaplain) and SDS leaders at the University have requested that the University make conference, sleeping, and eating facilities available to the demonstrators. No response has yet been made by University officials, although it is understood that officials at George Washington University turned down a similar request. Another source stated that Rev. Chas. ROTHER had turned down an NMC request that SDS at American University participate. An American University SDS leader has stated that a conference will be held in D. C. on the 19th of January and that a decision to have a "head-splitting confrontation" with the police would come out of that conference. He also indicated that a separate Inaugural Parade may be held by demonstrators on the 20th.

The SDS chapter at George Washington University had requested the use of University facilities for holding meetings and demonstrations during this period but was allegedly denied its request. It estimated that 3000 to 5000 persons would be present on the campus. Activity on the campus will include a "state of the union" address, a statement of the constructive aims of the New Left Movement, and a "Festival of Life". The GWU SDS has also reportedly inquired concerning the possibility of obtaining a demonstration permit for some area in D. C. Reportedly, the Park Police Dept. has advised that "no" permits will be issued by them for demonstrations on 20 January.

The SDS at Georgetown University has been discussing the possibility of holding demonstrations at Lafayette Park on 20 January and of sponsoring a demonstration at the Lincoln Memorial on the same date.

A current estimate on strength of GW University SDS and its intentions during the Presidential Inauguration has been elicited from a GWU source. GW SDS may have a total strength of about 450 (100 members, the remainder sympathizers). Source believes that GW SDS will link with local

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black militant groups in an effort to disrupt the Inauguration. Possible result and/or objective is the initiation of Washington riots reminiscent of April 1968. Moderate student leaders have asked GW administrators to hold the fall term final exams prior to 20 January to get the fall term over before the trouble starts.

The University of Maryland SDS is planning a "counter-inauguration" representing the "government of the people in exile". One proposal is to march from different points in Washington and arrive at the Capitol grounds 2 hours after the Nixon Inauguration has ended. SDS spokesman states that the SDS doesn't want another Chicago and if trouble occurs it will not have been initiated by the SDS. SDS expects the counter-inaugural mobilization to unite SDS with various pacifist groups including the War Resistance League and the Women Strike for Peace group.

At Ohio State, SDS sought volunteers to assist in coordinating demonstrations by SDS chapters at the Inauguration. SDS leadership hopes each state will establish a center to coordinate activities of participants from that state. The Ohio State SDS is attempting to organize a round trip by bus to participate. An SDS representative from Ohio reportedly, advised RENNIE DAVIS that his organization favors a confrontation with D. C. police on 20 January. The proposed theme of the Ohio SDS is "You can win but you can't govern".

SDS decided at a regional SDS conference at Kent, Ohio that meetings should be held in D. C. on January 18 to discuss SDS problems. Rennie DAVIS reputedly indicated to SDS that SDS should move ahead of the NMC in planning Inaugural action because NMC favors symbolic rather than militant action. (Ed. note: Additional support to theory that NMC leaders, while professing desire for orderly protest, would really like to see disruption and disorder occur but attributable to others.)

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Allegedly an SDS leader at Los Angeles Valley Junior College, Van Nuys, California has stated that he discussed (mid-Nov.) the Inaugural demonstrations with SDS national leaders and that an attempt will be made to disrupt the Inauguration on 20 January.

It is understood that the Philadelphia chapter of SANE has chartered 10 buses to travel from Philadelphia to Washington and return on January 19. Although earlier reports indicated that Rev. Ralph ABERNATHY and others from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) planned to demonstrate in several ways at the Inauguration "to dramatize the plight of the black people to the new President", the latest information suggests that neither ABERNATHY nor SCLC contemplates any activity or disturbance. It is reliably reported that ABERNATHY expects to receive an invitation to the Inaugural Ball. Whether he would attend dressed in his PPC 'coveralls' is not known.

Rather surprisingly, very little in connection with Inaugural protest has been heard from Jerry RUBIN and his Youth International Party (Yippies). This group, which was largely a put-on by a few individuals and is not a sizeable active organization, managed to obtain voluminous publicity and considerable Hippie support for their mad-cap antics at the DNC and as a result was a real threat to law and order. Reportedly, the Yippies plan a protest in Washington during the Inauguration to protest the war, racism and police repression. One event planned is a counter-inaugural ball where a symbolic "in-hog-uration" of a pig will be staged to reflect the Yippie view that American politics is absurd. Perhaps the fact that both Jerry RUBIN and Abbie HOFFMAN, Yippie leaders, have had a number of encounters with the law in recent months, has dampened their desire for confrontation. Admittedly, this is wishful thinking and the Yippies and Hippies--although seemingly movements on the wane--may still generate some disruption January 18-20.

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The National GI-Civilian Anti-War Action Conference held in Chicago in late December adopted a resolution to support the plans of the NMC during the Inaugural. It has been reported that the NMC is attempting to recruit Army personnel to participate in scheduled demonstrations during the Inauguration. Bus transportation will allegedly be provided. Buses are to leave from: Columbia, S. C. with troops from Ft. Jackson; Atlanta, Ga. with troops from Ft. McPherson; Richmond, Va. with troops from Ft. Lee; Newport News, Va. with troops from Ft. Eustis; and Nashville, Tenn. with troops from Ft. Knox and Ft. Breckenridge.

The plan is for Army personnel to attend seminars on 18 January and demonstrations on 19 January in connection with the Inaugural on the 20th.

Presumably, GI's who have affiliated with the "American Servicemen's Union" (ASU) may be induced to participate if passes are available. Others will, of course, also be sought after.

In mid-December, Frank COLLINS, chemistry Professor at Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute and leader of the University Committee on Problems of War & Peace, announced that his organization will join the demonstration.

Approximately 80 members and/or supporters of the Coalition for an Anti-Imperialist Movement (CO-AIM) met in NYC January 5 to discuss tentative plans regarding Inaugural activities, especially "confrontation sites". The two sites suggested were an empty lot on Pennsylvania Avenue across from the Justice Dept. and the mall tennis courts on Pennsylvania Avenue. CO-AIM is interested in the Pa. Ave. empty lot because large numbers can be accommodated and rocks are available for the direct confrontation the group plans on the 20th. CO-AIM will also have "street guards" directing participants and plans to set up "command posts" in some unspecified areas around Washington.

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A request was received by the National Park Service from NMC for a permit to erect a tent housing 10,000 persons on the Ellipse on the south side of the White House. The tent would be used on 20 January from 0800 to 1300 hours.

Several members of the DADE Junior College SDS plan to go to Inaugural demonstrations in D.C. They prefer to travel by chartered bus, but the cost may be prohibitive.

Sources: Government and news media reports

Reliability: Probably true